

MINUTES OF ACZISC MEETING #29

Atlantic Coastal Zone Information Steering Committee

Date: Wednesday, 26 January 2000, 0830-1600 hrs.

Location: Marine House, 176 Portland Street
Dartmouth, Nova Scotia

NAME	AFFILIATION	TEL. NO.
Present: * indicates ACZISC member or Executive Committee member		
Lt Cdr Dan Agnew	National Defence	(902) 427-0550
Tim Anderson*	Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Newfoundland Region	(709) 772-2852
William Blight*	Public Works and Government Services Canada	(902) 496-5160
Paul Boudreau	Fisheries and Oceans Canada	(902) 426-7464
Michael Butler*, Chair	Council of Maritime Premiers and Oceans Institute of Canada	(902) 494-1977
Andy Cameron*	Province of Nova Scotia	(902) 424-0406
Norval Collins*	Champlain Institute	(902) 425-4802
Steve Devitt	Tavel Ltd	(902) 422-4511
Brad Fay*	GeoConnections Secretariat	(613) 996-1412
Pierre Gareau	Geological Survey of Canada - Atlantic	(902) 426-3411
Carl Goodwin	Canadian Coast Guard (for Nancy McNeil*)	(902) 426-9022
Jennifer Harding	Geological Survey of Canada - Atlantic	(902) 426-6877
Darren Hicks	Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, Department of Mines and Energy	(709) 729-3712
Larry Hildebrand*	Environment Canada	(902) 426-2131
Barry Jones*	Province of New Brunswick	(506) 444-5749
Claudette LeBlanc	ACZISC Secretariat	(902) 494-3879
Richard MacDougall*	Canadian Hydrographic Service	(902) 426-3497
Neil MacNaughton*	Province of Newfoundland	(709) 729-3239
Charles O'Reilly	Canadian Hydrographic Service	(902) 426-5344
Jim Ramsay*	Province of Prince Edward Island	(902) 368-4075
Neil Ross	National Research Council (representing the Atlantic Provinces Council on the Sciences*)	(902) 426-8402
Brent Rowley*	Champlain Institute	(902) 420-1435
Faith Scattolon*	Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Maritimes Region	(902) 426-2065
Andy Sherin*	Natural Resources Canada	(902) 426-7582
Eric Theriault*	Environment Canada	(902) 426-9558
Danika van Proosdij	Saint Mary's University	(902) 420-5738

1. **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF PARTICIPANTS**

Mike Butler, ACZISC Chair, called Meeting #29 to order at 08:30 hrs. He welcomed members and guests and added that some members were absent due to yesterday's storm. He thanked Faith Scattolon for making arrangements for the meeting room and the Oceans Act Coordination Office, Fisheries and Oceans Canada for providing lunch. A roundtable introduction of all participants followed.

2. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA, AND REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MEETING #28**

The provisional Agenda for Meeting #29 was reviewed. Two Update items were added: BoFEP and MGDl. The revised agenda is attached.

The draft minutes of ACZISC Meeting #28 were reviewed and the following revisions were made:

Page 1 **PRESENT:** The affiliation for Marie Josée Maillet should read "Richibucto Sustainable Development Project".

Page 8 **PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK:** 4th par., 1st bullet "... A total amount of \$50 000 per year per watershed has been given to citizens in the past three years." **should read** ..."\$50 000 per year per watershed has been given to citizens in the past three years."

The minutes were approved with the above revisions. The revised minutes will be posted on the ACZISC website at <http://is.dal.ca/aczisc/info>

3. **STATUS OF ACTION ITEMS**

Action Items from Meeting #28 and those outstanding from previous meetings were reviewed. All Action Items were carried out or are in progress except the following:

ACTION 28.5: ACZISC Secretariat to prepare a cost estimate prior to next meeting for adding a search function to the ACZISC website.

4. **ACZISC WORKPLAN**

ACZISC SECRETARIAT: Copies of the ACZISC Secretariat Operating Guidelines were distributed and reviewed. It was noted that changes to items #1 and #6 (bold text) had been suggested at ACZISC meeting #28 (29 September 1999). These were discussed and approved.

Members further discussed the Guidelines and suggested changes to item #7 which deals with representation on the ACZISC. These changes will be incorporated for consideration at the next meeting.

Mike Butler stated that since 1993 the ACZISC Secretariat has been based at the Oceans Institute of Canada (OIC), located at 1226 LeMarchant Street on the Dalhousie University campus. The OIC is currently considering linking or merging with the Canadian office of the International Ocean Institute (IOI), also located at 1226 LeMarchant. The IOI has 12 other national centres around the world. Recommendations based on the pros and cons of such an action are being outlined in a document being prepared by an OIC/IOI Task Group; these will

be considered by the OIC members and Board of Directors and the IOI Advisory Council. From the OIC perspective, the final decision will be made by the OIC members.

Two other organizations could be involved in the merger under consideration: the Coastal Zone Canada Association and the ACZISC. Both the ACZISC and the CZCA will be kept informed of developments for future consideration. A number of ACZISC members are also OIC and CZCA members (Larry Hildebrand, Barry Jones and Mike Butler) and will be involved in the ongoing discussions.

Discussion:

Bill Blight enquired re the timeframe.

Mike Butler responded that decisions should be made within the next 3-4 months.

Barry Jones enquired as to the impetus behind these discussions.

Mike Butler replied that the main impetus was the perceived overlap between the OIC and the IOI and the requirement for a Canadian Coastal and Oceans NGO with critical mass.

At its meeting on 24 January, the ACZISC Executive Committee reviewed the requirement for, and implications of, bilingual ACZISC communications, as actioned at the last ACZISC meeting (Fredericton, 29 September 1999). The Executive Committee is recommending the following:

The ACZISC Secretariat should have the capacity to communicate in both English and French. This would require that one of the Secretariat staff members be functionally bilingual. Information made available for posting on the ACZISC website or other communication media may be posted in the language of submission, i.e. French or English or both.

Members discussed and approved the above recommendation.

Jim Ramsay commented that this was a positive direction for the ACZISC. He added that federal funding was available to organizations to assist them in providing bilingual services. Barry Jones stated that a statement should be added to the ACZISC website in regards to the bilingual aspect of the Secretariat.

ACTION 29.1: Secretariat to add a statement to the ACZISC website which outlines the bilingual capability of the ACZISC Secretariat.

Paul Boudreau commented that the bilingual aspect of the Secretariat should also be reflected in the ACZISC Secretariat Guidelines.

ACTION 29.2: Secretariat to revise the Secretariat Guidelines to reflect the ACZISC policy on bilingual services, for review at the next meeting.

MEMBERSHIP: Mike Butler reported the following:

Lt Cdr Dan Agnew is participating in today's meeting as an observer on behalf of National Defence.

As actioned at the last meeting, the ACZISC Executive Committee discussed a policy for representation by the private sector, communities and academia on the ACZISC at their meeting on 24 January. The Executive Committee is recommending the following policy:

The private sector, academia and communities should be represented on the ACZISC by agencies which, if possible, have a relevant regional mandate. This is in keeping with the regional mandate of the ACZISC. Representation should be as follows:

- *The private sector in the Maritime Provinces should continue to be represented on the ACZISC by the Champlain Institute (CI). Norval Collins is currently representing the CI on the ACZISC and Brent Rowley on the ACZISC Executive Committee. In addition, representatives of other private sector organizations may attend meetings as observers.*

The private sector in Newfoundland and Labrador should continue to be represented by the Newfoundland and Labrador Association of Technology Industries (NATI). Randy Gillespie is currently representing NATI on the ACZISC.

- *Currently community group interests cannot be represented on a regional basis on the ACZISC because there is no regional community association. The ACZISC Secretariat should continue to invite individual community groups to the ACZISC meetings in their respective Province. Provincial ACZISC representatives should assist in this task.*
- *Universities should continue to be represented through the Atlantic Provinces Council on the Sciences (APICS). In addition, representatives of colleges and universities may attend meetings as observers.*

The following was also noted by the Executive Committee:

- *Interested individuals should be encouraged to participate in ACZISC meetings. However, in the future the ACZISC may have to restrict the number of observers if this becomes a "logistics" problem.*
- *ACZISC members should be given speaking priority at ACZISC meetings, especially during the round table component.*

Members discussed and approved the above recommendations.

Barry Jones suggested that a statement on the membership policy be added to the ACZISC website.

ACTION 29.3: Secretariat to add a statement to the ACZISC website which outlines its policy regarding representation on the Committee.

An up-to-date List of ACZISC members, including Executive Committee members, with mailing and email addresses, and telephone and fax nos. is attached.

WORKPLAN/BUDGET/FUNDING: Mike Butler reported that the 1998/1999 ACZISC Annual Report was available and that members should contact the Secretariat if they would like a copy.

ACTION 29.4: ACZISC members wanting to obtain a copy of the ACZISC 1998/1999 Annual Report to contact the Secretariat.

Mike Butler reported that the increasing Secretariat workload had been discussed by the ACZISC Executive Committee on 24 January: The Executive Committee is recommending the following:

- The Secretariat should be involved in the development of a proposal for a High-Resolution Coastal Mapping Project.
- Less Secretariat time should be allocated in next year's Workplan to regional/national initiatives, including the Southern Gulf of St. Lawrence Coalition on Sustainability, the Gulf of Maine Council and the Global Programme of Action

Coalition. Other ACZISC members already involved in these programmes could be tasked to represent ACZISC interests and report on these initiatives at ACZISC meetings.

Discussion:

Paul Boudreau commented that he hoped that strong official linkages would continue between the ACZISC and the GoM.

Faith Scattolon stated that the official linkages would continue and that the ACZISC Secretariat could be contacted if their direct involvement was required.

Members concurred with the above recommendations.

ACTION 29.5: Secretariat to identify members responsible for representing ACZISC interests and reporting on related regional programs at ACZISC meetings.

Jim Ramsay suggested that an Executive Committee Report be added as the first item under ACZISC Workplan on the agenda of future ACZISC meetings. This was supported by other ACZISC members.

ACTION 29.6: Secretariat to add "Executive Committee Report" on the agenda of future ACZISC meetings, under ACZISC Workplan.

Mike distributed copies of the ACZISC Budget (1997-1998 to 1999-2000) and a Summary of ACZISC Revenues (1998-2000). Copies are attached. He reported that Secretariat expenses for the year were on target; however, the revenue shortfall for 1999/2000 was forecast to be approximately \$20K. Faith Scattolon added that solutions to this problem would be discussed further by the Executive Committee and that discussions were ongoing with the NS Federal Council re funding for the ACZISC to match provincial contributions.

Mike stated that, as per the Secretariat Operating Guidelines, the proposed ACZISC Workplan and Budget for 2000/2001 would be prepared and submitted to the ACZISC, following its review by the Executive Committee.

ACTION 29.7: Secretariat to prepare and submit the 2000/2001 Proposed Workplan and Budget for review and approval by the ACZISC Executive Committee and members by 29 February 2000.

COMMUNICATIONS: The ACZISC Communications Working Group is chaired by Mike Butler. He reported the following:

ACZISC Update:

The ACZISC Updates, distributed by email, contain brief information items relevant to ICM and information management, including contact persons or websites for further information. Attempts are made to achieve a "balance" between regional, national and international news items. Based on the positive feedback received to date, the Update would appear to be an effective method of communicating with a wide audience. Members are encouraged to submit items to be considered for inclusion in the Updates.

Atlantic Coastal Zone Info:

The 2-page information bulletin contains a summary of information on ACZISC activities and projects. It is updated and customized for relevant workshops and conferences primarily within

the region, the most recent being the Founding Meeting and Conference of the Southern Gulf of St. Lawrence Coalition on Sustainability held in Summerside on 19-20 November.

Business Card:

The supply of ACZISC business cards is nearly depleted. A new card will be produced for duplication, based on comments received at previous meeting.

ACZISC Website:

Claudette LeBlanc reported that the ACZISC website as a whole had been accessed by over 600 users per month since the last meeting. A counter added to the website in September does not include the number of accesses to the Database Directory; these user statistics are captured by NDI.

Claudette requested that members provide her with information suitable for the ACZISC website, e.g., conference announcements, documents on ICM, etc.

Larry Hildebrand reported that the ACZISC website was identified as a key resource for information on ICM in several sites on the WWW.

ACTION 29.8: ACZISC members to provide the Secretariat with relevant information for inclusion in the ACZISC website and monthly Update.

DATABASE DIRECTORY: The ACZISC Database Directory Working Group is chaired by Claudette LeBlanc. She reported the following:

- The ACZISC Secretariat was contacted by Nova Scotia to update the 2nd edition of the NS Directory of Geographic Data and Information produced in 1995; the updated NS provincial Directory will become the NS component of the ACZISC Database Directory. The NS contract has helped to reduce the shortfall in funding for the Secretariat; however, it has also taken time away from ACZISC Secretariat responsibilities. The project is nearing completion.
- To date a commitment has not been made by NDI to post the updated ACZISC Directory on NDI's website. This will be pursued.
- Future priorities for the Database Directory include the development of an online update capability and graphic geographic search capability.

Larry Hildebrand reported on a project application to Service Canada by the ACZISC Secretariat and Environment Canada for a project to *Enhance the Atlantic Coastal Zone Database Directory to Provide Communities with Improved Access to Environmental Resources*. Funding has been provided for the 1st phase of the project. \$15K is earmarked for the ACZISC Secretariat. Additional funds will be applied for in the next fiscal year.

Discussion:

Neil MacNaughton enquired if CEONet had been considered as a vehicle for delivering the ACZISC Database Directory on the WWW.

Claudette LeBlanc replied that CEONet had been approached and that they were supportive. However, they stated that they are not able to provide financial or technical support to make this happen.

Andy Sherin added that a formal link between CEONet and the ACZISC Database Directory could be considered in next year's proposal to Service Canada.

COASTAL MAPPING AND DATA EXCHANGE AND STANDARDS: The Coastal Mapping Working Group is co-chaired by Curt Speight, NS Geomatics Centre and Eric Theriault, Environment Canada. The Data Exchange and Standards Working Group is co-chaired by

Réjean Castonguay, Service NB, and Andy Sherin, GSC Atlantic. Eric reported the following:

- The latest ACZISC workshop entitled *Remote Sensing Technologies for Coastal Zone Mapping* was held on 30 September in Fredericton. Support for the workshop was provided by the Canadian Centre for Marine Communications (CCMC).
- Several meetings have been held following the workshop to initiate the development of a project proposal to acquire high-resolution 3D datasets in the coastal zone.
- The ACZISC Secretariat, the Champlain Institute and the chairs of the ACZISC Coastal Mapping Working Group and the Data Exchange and Standards Working Group are collaborating to develop the project proposal.

Brent Rowley, President, Champlain Institute, briefed participants on the project proposal entitled *Collaborative Program to Develop and Implement a High-Resolution Coastal Mapping Project in Atlantic Canada*. He stated the following:

- The Champlain Institute is a regional private-sector led agency established to market Atlantic Canada's geomatics capabilities internationally.
- The High-Resolution Coastal Mapping project has been proposed in part to respond to the requirement for high-precision 3D coastal mapping to identify the potential extent and impact of storm surges and other natural disasters in the coastal zone. Mapping currently available is inadequate for this purpose.
- The extensive damage caused in the Maritimes by last week's storm surge (21 January) has reinforced this requirement. Although the return rate of these storms cannot be predicted, their frequency is expected to increase in the future.
- The project will partner with existing projects, including: a Climate Change Action Fund (CCAF) project being undertaken by CHS and NRCan/GSC Atlantic), in the north shore of PEI; and a Canadian Fund for Innovation (CFI) project by the Centre of Geographic (CoGS), in the Annapolis Valley of NS.
- Other potential partners are being contacted, including the provinces of NB, NS and PEI.
- The types of data acquired include land LIDAR, marine LIDAR, CASI and IKONOS.
- The vendors and service providers will be contacted to work out the specifications, including cost estimates, resolution, processing requirements, etc.
- It is anticipated that data acquisition will take place sometime from mid-June to the end of July 2000.
- Involvement by the Champlain Institute in the project will facilitate its worldwide marketing of these technologies and services to other coastal jurisdictions.

Charlie O'Reilly added that it would take time to assess the damage caused by the recent surge event, including both insured and non-insured losses. There were several cases where assets need not have been damaged or destroyed (e.g., farming equipment and cars could have been moved) if proper surge warnings could have been issued. Recent tests of experimental 24-hr storm surge forecasting have yielded very good results. However, there is a need for accurate tidal models to predict flooding when extreme surges coincide with extreme tides. Four dimensional flood simulations also require appropriate high resolution digital elevation models of threatened lowlands. The proposed High-Resolution Coastal Mapping Project will attempt to address these requirements.

Barry Jones commented that a proposal within the context of NB's flood plain policy and the proposed High-Resolution Coastal Mapping project could be submitted to the NB Environmental Trust Fund for funding. The deadline for applications is 31 January.

Mike Butler added that participants in the project would have access to the data and information gathered under the Terms of Reference for the project. He also stressed the cost savings that could be achieved through optimum utilization of aircraft and sensors, some of which are based elsewhere in Canada. He asked that individuals interested in participating in

the project to contact the ACZISC Secretariat.

ACTION 29.9: ACZISC members wanting to participate in the Collaborative Program to Develop and Implement a High-Resolution Coastal Mapping Project in Atlantic Canada to contact Secretariat ASAP.

INTEGRATED COASTAL MANAGEMENT: Larry Hildebrand reported the following:

- The Secretariat and provincial representatives with an interest in ICM and policy have been meeting over the past two years on the day preceding the quarterly ACZISC meetings to share information on ICM.
- It has been suggested that participation in this ad hoc group be expanded to include interested federal members and others and to explore a more formal arrangement.
- A group of federal and provincial ACZISC members and the Secretariat met in Dartmouth yesterday (25 January) to discuss the requirement for an ACZISC ICM Working Group.
- The group is recommending that an ACZISC Working Group on ICM be formally constituted. The ICM Working Group would:
 - » Operate on a 'sub-official/friendly exchange' level; no minutes would be recorded.
 - » Focus on ICM issues of interest to the region.
 - » Convene workshops or other events on ICM as required.
 - » Consider the development of region-wide ICM initiatives within the mandates and responsibilities of the member agencies.
 - » Respect the limitations of members to provide details on particular initiatives.
 - » Have federal and provincial co-chairs who would rotate on an annual basis (Faith Scattolon and Barry Jones agreed to serve as the first co-chairs).
 - » Meet on the day preceding the quarterly ACZISC meetings, or as deemed necessary by members.
 - » Be open to all interested ACZISC members and others.

Members concurred with the above recommendations.

Neil Ross enquired if the aquaculture industry would be allowed to participate in ACZISC meetings. Barry Jones responded that they would be welcome to attend meetings.

5. ***PRESENTATION: CANADA'S OCEANS MANAGEMENT STRATEGY***

Faith Scattolon, Regional Director, Oceans Maritime Region, made a presentation on the Oceans Management Strategy and Oceans Act Implementation. She reviewed progress to date, related issues and the next steps. Faith reported the following:

- The Oceans Act is divided into three parts: oceans territory/zone definitions; the Oceans Management Strategy; and the DFO/CCG ministerial role. Oceans sector field staff are located throughout the Atlantic Provinces.
- *Towards an Ocean Management Strategy* was released in January 1998. It focuses on relationship building: forging positive relationships with oceans and coastal interests via MoUs. These include the Southern Gulf of St. Lawrence Coalition on Sustainability, Canadian Rural Partnership Program, the Global Programme of Action Coalition, the Fundy Forum, etc.
- Oceans Act programs focus on development, pilot projects and implementation. To date projects include The Gully, Eastern Scotian Shelf Integrated Management, Basin Head, Musquash Marsh, Bras d'Or Lakes, etc.
- The principles and approaches of the Act and Management Strategy are being incorporated into the DFO philosophy and activities.
- The next steps will have a national focus.

6. **ROUNDTABLE REVIEW OF COASTAL ZONE ACTIVITIES**

PRIVATE SECTOR: Norval Collins reported the following:

- He is a member of an Industry Canada Trade Team which focuses on the service sector and capital projects. Eleven countries have been selected as priority areas for the Trade Team, including China, Poland and Guatemala. Coastal management initiatives should be important.
- Over the past five years, Environment Canada and CMHC, with recent involvement of the Canadian Federation of Municipalities, have developed a software application to assist groups in developing a community-based indicator of sustainability. Indicators are key statistics or parameters that, tracked over time, can represent or summarize trends in social, economic and environmental conditions. The application assists groups to:
 - » create a vision, goals and objectives of community sustainability;
 - » select indicators and create new indicators using local information (some may have been collected by the group itself);
 - » download data from the Internet and import data from other sources;
 - » analyze indicator data; and
 - » produce readable, attractive reports for internal and external communications.

At least two pilot projects should be developed to test the suitability of the Sustainable Community Indicator Program (SCIP) application software to coastal community groups. The Clean Annapolis River Program (CARP) has expressed a keen interest in participating in a pilot.

Brent Rowley, President of the Champlain Institute, reported that he participated in exploratory meetings in Boston and Washington last December on behalf of the Champlain Institute. Two project opportunities were identified, including:

- a proposal with MIT for a real-time groundfish mapping project.
- a proposal to develop a real-time data display and visualization system. USL would be contracted by Ocean Data Equipment, manufacturers of transducers and other nautical equipment, for developing this product.

FISHERIES AND OCEANS CANADA: Dick MacDougall, CHS Atlantic, reported the following:

- Under a joint project agreement, CHS has completed the seafloor mapping of nearly 70% of Georges Bank using a SIMRAD EM1002 multibeam mapping system aboard the scallop trawler Anne S. Pierce. This vessel and system are industry-owned and capable of multibeam data collection to a depth of 800 metres. The GSC Atlantic has collected groundtruthing information on the seafloor sediment; it will analyze the multibeam backscatter and combine it with the groundtruthing information to create an interpreted geology and habitat map similar to that which was produced for Browns Bank.
- The SeaMap concept paper, jointly authored by DFO, NRCan and DND, proposes the systematic mapping of the Canadian EEZ for bathymetry, geology, benthic habitat and biological communities to form the basic infrastructure for integrated ocean management. It is a 2 phase proposal; during the 1st year, the proponents would scope the project, analyze costs and benefits, build partnerships and support and formulate a strategy to get permission to seek long term funding. During the 2nd phase long term funding will be sought and implementation would begin. To date ADM-level personnel of DFO, NRCan and DND, the NS Federal Council and the Clerk of the Privy Council have been briefed re the proposal. DFO will be seeking approval to proceed from the DFO Policy Committee, an ADM-level committee.

The extension of jurisdiction over the Canadian Continental Shelf under the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) is not part of the SeaMap proposal. This is tied to Canada's ratification of UNCLOS which in turn is tied to the coming into force of the UN Convention on Straddling Stocks.

Copies of the paper were circulated. Dick asked participants to read it and to contact him re potential applications of interest to their jurisdictions/agencies. Advice on the strategy to get multi-departmental support and to make senior managers and politicians aware of SeaMap is also being sought.

ACTION 29.10: Participants to provide input to Dick MacDougall, CHS, ASAP on the concept paper entitled "Canadian Seabed Resource Mapping Program - A Knowledge Base for Ocean Management in the 21st Century"

- CHS, the GSC and UNB supported the Canadian Centre for Marine Communications (CCMC) in preparing the technical specifications for the multibeam mapping of the Irish Continental Shelf. Ireland has £22 million funding for the project and tenders for the mapping are expected to be issued in the year 2000.

Charlie O'Reilly, CHS Atlantic, reported the following:

- A representative of the European Space Agency (ESA) will be at BIO this p.m. to review Canadian collaboration and technology used in seabed mapping.
- RADARSAT International has acquired a major contract in Vietnam. It is open to collaboration with other Canadian partners.
- Canada is a leader in building mapping systems but not in the actual mapping. The Americans and Australians are using Canadian technology, e.g., marine LIDAR, to exploit huge international markets.

Carl Goodwin, Superintendent, Aids to Navigation, Canadian Coast Guard, reported the following:

- The CCG vision is ""to lead the way in marine safety, service and protection of the marine environment".
- The CCG mission is "to ensure the safe and environmentally responsible use of Canada's waters, support understanding and management of oceans resources, facilitate the use of our waters for shipping, recreation and fishing, and provide marine expertise in support of Canada's domestic and international interests".
- The dredging program has been discontinued. CCG responsibilities now include safety, marine communication and traffic services.
- The Sable Island Preservation Trust will be responsible for looking after Sable Island.
- All of the CCG work is positional in nature, e.g., environmental emergency response, managing the fleet of ships, etc.
- Because of the close working relationship between the CCG and CHS, links are being strengthened and built between these two agencies, primarily via the means of electronics.

Tim Anderson, DFO Newfoundland, reported the following:

- The Placentia Bay/Avalon Peninsula Coastal Zone Management Plan is being developed as a result of the work of the Terra Nova Offshore Development Environmental Assessment Panel which recommended that the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador establish a coastal zone management plan for the Avalon Peninsula/Placentia Bay. The background for this recommendation is as follows:
 - » By 2002, 35 m tonnes of oil will be transported through the region annually (busiest in Canada).

- » The region is important in terms of fisheries/aquaculture/ecotourism activities.
- » An international Seabird Ecological Reserve (Cape St. Mary's) is located there.
- » The region is an overwintering habitat for endangered Harlequin Duck.

The Province has accepted the recommendation and DFO has agreed to participate. Federal and provincial briefings/consultations are underway and a database of existing information/coastal atlas is being developed. The outputs will form the basis for consultations with stakeholders.

- The Coastal Inventory Project is ongoing. The new projects are Placentia Bay/Great Northern Peninsula. There is a high level of cooperation among all the partners - EC, ACOA, Regional Economic Development Boards, HRD, etc.). The final products are routinely passed to EC for incorporation into the Atlantic Region Sensitivity Mapping Program. Presently options to provide more access to coastal inventories and other databases, including AquaGIS, are being considered.
- Students from the Marine Institute of Memorial University are getting hands-on experience on the Conception Bay South Coastal Zone Management Plan. The town of Conception Bay South is a partner in the Management Plan. The site is being considered for a climate change/variability project and for a DFO project on the impact of sewage on the marine environment.
- Proposals to designate two Marine Protected Area sites - Gilbert Bay and Leading Tickles - are being reviewed. The Eastport MPA proposal will be submitted by the end of January; senior management will be deciding in March if it is to be designated an MPA Pilot Project. Work continues re identifying potential offshore sites, including areas that may be of interest for offshore oil exploration/development.
- Work is continuing on national initiatives under the Oceans Act, such as the Oceans Management Strategy, the Oceans Act Review, and Policies for Integrated Management.
- The National Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities is to be released soon.
- The Oceans Program in DFO Newfoundland Region has been established in the Science Branch. The name of the Branch has been changed to Science, Oceans and Environment.
- It is recognized in the DFO Newfoundland Region that the fishing industry and coastal communities are major ocean stakeholders.

Paul Boudreau, DFO Oceans Maritimes Region, reported the following:

- Efforts are under way to develop a website to host a Marine Invertebrate Diversity Database. The partners include DFO, the NS Ecology Action Centre, the NS Museum of Natural History and NRCan. Discussions are also under way with the Huntsman Marine Science Centre in St. Andrews.
- The 1988 Canadian moratorium on oil and gas exploration in the Georges Bank area was scheduled to expire on 1 January 2000. Federal and provincial natural resources ministers announced on 22 December that the ban was being extended to 2012. The US moratorium has also been extended to 2012.

Andy Sherin enquired how the Marine Invertebrate initiative was related to the CWS Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre (AC CDC). Paul responded that it could provide the marine component of the AC CDC.

Faith Scattolon, DFO Oceans Maritimes Region, reported the following:

- A project on the Cape Breton Highlands is developing a protocol for resource mapping: one in Inverness County and another in Victoria County. The goal is to examine existing mapping results and techniques to provide a better product and methodology. DFO is providing guidance and expertise to the project.
- DFO Fisheries Management is developing an Internet mapping utility to permit managers to map fish closures interactively - identifying the areas, entering the points, drawing the

polygons with appropriate fills, and producing a JPEG document that would be saved and made available to the DFO website for inclusion in their variation orders. All field staff will be able to access the documents directly. This has the potential of reducing the time factor from getting the field information to the distribution stage by several months.

- DFO will be "publishing" the St. Georges Bay Ecosystem Project report, making it available to a larger audience through the DFO library system and computerized abstract system.
- Work continues on the publishing of the Nearshore Fisheries Resources Atlas as a companion document to the Nearshore Fisheries Atlas. This will be completed before April.
- The Gully CD ROM, produced in collaboration with EC and a variety of other contributors, was released early December. The CD is an interactive educational tool.
- DFO is co-sponsoring with the NS Ecology Action Centre the Marine Invertebrates Diversity Initiative to improve the database on distribution of invertebrates on the Scotian Shelf.
- DFO is co-sponsoring the 1st International Symposium on Deep Sea Corals, scheduled for 30 July - 2 August 2000 at Dalhousie University in Halifax. The purpose of the Symposium is to review, discuss and synthesize all aspects of deep sea, cold water coral biology, ecology, and conservation. For information, email Derek Fenton at fentond@mar.dfo-mpo.gc.ca
- A Beach Sweep Kit , developed by the DFO Gulf Centre in Moncton and based on an approach used in Québec, has been very successfully used in the Acadian Peninsula. Others (EC, NBDOE, etc) are interested in a broader application. DFO is also pursuing national distribution of the Kit. For information, email Sophie Bastien-Daigle at bastiens@mar.dfo-mpo.gc.ca
- DFO, in collaboration with the PEI Department of Technology and Environment, hosted a major scientific workshop entitled *Effects of Land Use Practices on Fish, Shellfish, and their Habitats on PEI* on 6-10 December in Charlottetown. The main purpose of the workshop was to examine how land use practices affect fish, shellfish, and their habitats. The main areas of focus were siltation, cattle access to streams, toxic chemicals, and estuarine eutrophication. The workshop report will be available soon.
- The signatories of the Petitcodiac River experiment will be meeting tomorrow (27 January) to determine what steps if any are to be taken this year re opening the causeway.
- Canada and France will be meeting to discuss potential environmental impacts associated with the oil and gas corridors off St-Pierre.

PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK: Barry Jones reported the following:

- The Coastal Mapping orthophoto series at 1:10 000 is near completion. In addition to coastal coverage, orthophotos for the remainder of the Province will be produced over the next 3-4 years.
- It is proposed that part of the \$1 million per year available for mapping in NB be made available to map submerged lands.
- The NB Marine Conservation Code will be presented to relevant Deputy Ministers in two weeks and then to the NB Cabinet with projected approval by September 2000. An announcement may be made at CZC 2000.
- The NB Sustainable Development Program will be moving to community leadership, based on the ACAP model. One of the requirements will be the development of an Environmental Management Plan for each of the 10 SDP projects; the sites are located on the Gulf coast.
- It is proposed that a NB Watershed Council be established. It would include the 10 Sustainable Development Program sites, the ACAP sites located in NB and others. The Council could be responsible for coordinating funding requests.
- The Province is supportive of the proposal to establish the Musquash Estuary as an MPA. It is anticipated that DFO will declare the site as an Area of Interest.

ATLANTIC PROVINCES COUNCIL ON THE SCIENCES: Neil Ross (Institute for Marine Biosciences, National Research Council), Secretary of the APICS Aquaculture Committee, reported the following:

- The APICS Aquaculture Committee organizes a student conference each year to allow students from the four Atlantic Provinces, conducting aquaculture-related research, the opportunity to present their research to their peers.
- Aquaculture is becoming an increasingly important component of economic development in eastern Canada. The APICS Aquaculture Committee strives to link academic (and government) researchers to increase communication between various research institutions and aquaculturists, thus helping to get "new ideas" into the field in a timely fashion to the benefit of industry.
- Given that some of the activities carried out by ACZISC are related to integrated coastal zone development, he believes that representatives from the Aquaculture industries in each of the Atlantic Provinces may be interested in hearing about the committee and its activities. They may want to have their voices heard in discussions on coastal development issues. He will inform the Director of the Aquaculture Association of NS about the ACZISC and suggests that aquaculture associations in other provinces be invited to attend future ACZISC meetings.

NATIONAL DEFENCE: Lt Cdr Dan Agnew reported the following:

- The East Coast Navy is interfacing with other departments via information meetings.
- DND is responsible for the CANMARNET information network which is available to federal department personnel via the Intranet.
- Three data collection initiatives are being discussed at the national level with other federal departments:
 - » Land-based: High frequency surface wave radar, 250 km range; will provide good images of shipping and fishing activity; 3 to 5 minutes delay; would be available on CANMARNET; 2 experimental sites have been established (Cape Race and Cape Bonavista)
 - » Space-based: Negotiations to purchase a ground station for RADARSAT either in Halifax or Victoria. Data could be made available within 1 hour of being received.
 - » Ocean-based: Collaboration with the U.S. Navy. A network of ocean sensors has been established. The use of mobile sensors is being evaluated. Trials are taking place at Burnside. Arrays are expected by March or April and the system should be operational by the summer. It can be used to monitor shipping, marine mammals, etc.

Faith Scattolon added that DFO had made extensive use of CANMARNET for the Gully CD project.

PROVINCE OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND: Jim Ramsay reported the following:

- There is some participation by PEI departments in offshore projects.
- There is concern with commercial development in the newly acquired Greenwich National Park.
- As a result of the recent storm surge, provincial awareness of the need for flood warning systems has been raised. It is anticipated that this will lead to projects to design and implement these systems.
- The Province is moving ahead with the privatization of wharves. Silting is an ongoing problem.
- There are plans to carry out a major land use study in 2000-2001. Orthophoto maps will be produced from 1:10 000 photography. Agriculture and Forestry is the lead agency for the study. The PEI departments of Fisheries, Environment and the Geomatics Centre are also involved.

GULF OF MAINE ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION EXCHANGE: Paul Boudreau, DFO Marine Environmental Sciences Division, reported the following:

- GOMINFOEX was initiated to provide coastal communities of the Gulf of Maine with maximum benefits from available environmental information.
- A workshop was held in Boston in November 1998.
- The partners are federal, state and provincial governments, environmental NGOs, university researchers, K-12 educators, and commercial interests , including fishers and aquaculturalists.
- A website has been established at <http://www.gominfoex.org>. It includes the terms of reference, meeting minutes, etc.
- Ongoing activities include:
 - » An electronic atlas is being developed by the Island Institute based in Rockport, Maine. Distributed search information is held by various communities for compiling maps and testing the system.
 - » A user needs survey of K-12 educators is under way. The educators are also being made aware of the availability of information.
 - » A website with over 500 links of interest to fishermen is online. They will be contacted to identify the sites which they consider to be valuable.
 - » Planning is under way for the "Out of the Fog II Workshop" scheduled for November 2000.

GEOCONNECTIONS SECRETARIAT: Brad Fay reported the following:

- The GeoConnections Secretariat is a partnership of stakeholders dedicated to the delivery of the Canadian Geospatial Data Infrastructure (CGDI) with a budget of \$60 million over five years. The CGDI is an on-line, integrated data infrastructure to deliver geospatial data, services and information for applications, and value-added commercial activities. Its mission is to make more geographic information available to more Canadians, and to accomplish that via the Internet.
- Brad is a member of the GeoConnections Secretariat, seconded from the NS provincial government, with specific responsibility for Provincial/Territorial liaison. A cycle of visits to all provinces and territories has almost been completed.
- The GeoConnections Secretariat will be releasing additional Requests for Proposals to develop technology in support of the CGDI under its GeoInnovations Program in February 2000. These RFPs should be of interest to government, at all levels, the private sector, academia and other non-government organizations (NGOs).
- A new proposal evaluation system (ProGrid) is being implemented. Evaluation criteria are being developed which will assist with writing responses to the RFPs.
- The GeoConnections Secretariat has a number of geomatics studies under preparation or in process. Two studies of particular interest to the ACZISC may be:
 - » A geospatial data policy study will look at the economics of government programs (Canada, USA and Australia) related to geospatial data dissemination and policies and make recommendations re Canadian geomatics.
 - » A geomatics sector study to look at the markets, structure, and human resources is being jointly sponsored by the GeoConnections Program, Canadian Council of Land Surveyors, Geomatics Industry Association of Canada, and Human Resources Development Canada. Additional information on these studies, other opportunities, and proposals is listed on the GeoConnections website at <http://www.geoconnections.org>
- The ACZISC was complimented and thanked for providing a link to the GeoConnections website in the ACZISC website.

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA: Andy Cameron reported the following:

- The release of the policy relating to the establishment of the NS Coastal Zone Management Framework has been delayed.

- In November, the NS departments of the Environment and Fisheries and Aquaculture, and the federal departments of Fisheries and Oceans and Environment signed an MoU on service delivery to coastal communities. One implementation meeting has been held and a Steering Committee meeting is being scheduled for late February to approve a workplan.
- The Coastal Communities Network (CCN) is hosting a meeting on community-based resource management tomorrow, 27 January in Truro. CCN also hosted a workshop last week in Herring Cove on the devolution of responsibility for wharves and related coastal community infrastructure, including lighthouses, wharves, and navigational aids.
- The NS Department of Natural Resources is hosting a seminar on Land Use on 9-10 March in Bridgewater. One day - 9 March - will be devoted to submerged lands.

ENVIRONMENT CANADA: Eric Theriault reported the following:

- In February, EC will be conducting a 2-day national workshop for Geographic Information System users and managers. The workshop in Burlington, ON is intended to bridge the various GIS activities of the EC regions and branches and to move forward on broader issues such as access to federal datasets, data management, metadata and data sharing. The workshop objectives include:
 - » To improve knowledge and expertise of departmental GIS users and managers
 - » To develop capacity to apply GIS technology to departmental priorities
 - » To promote the importance of metadata for geospatial datasets
 - » To facilitate data and information sharing.
- A report on the workshop will be provided at the upcoming ACZISC meeting.

Larry Hildebrand reported the following:

- Bluenose ACAP hosted a Coastal Communities Workshop in Lunenburg, NS in October that brought together representatives from the three levels of government, all ACAP sites, NGOs, private sector interests and national institutes. This diverse cross-section of interests came together to discuss the seriousness of untreated or inadequately-treated sewage throughout Atlantic Canada and to develop practical courses of action to address the issue. A report of the workshop will be available shortly from Bluenose ACAP (bacap@auracom.com). A regional sewage strategy is also under development.
- The Federal Economic Development Committee of the NS Federal Council (comprised of all federal departments in the region) has focused its attention on the issue of 'sustainable communities'. The federal departments recognized the significant amount of programming among the departments focused on NS communities and the need to better coordinate these efforts. A Sustainable Communities working group was struck in 1999. The provincial departments have come to the same realization and the sustainable communities focus is now a fully collaborative federal-provincial effort. It was further recognized that a coordinated approach and relationship with communities is warranted. Common principles, objectives and strategies have been agreed to and the two levels of government will initiate their collaborative inter-governmental and government-community efforts in two communities in NS this year (Bras d'Or and Annapolis/Fundy).
- EC Atlantic has been reorganized. The Sustainable Development and Ecosystem Division together with EcoAction 2000 and Community Animation have all been moved into the Corporate Affairs Branch.

Andy Cameron cautioned that fishery closures were not necessarily the result of untreated sewage. Other sources, e.g., run-offs, could be the source of the problem.

GOVERNMENT OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR: Darren Hicks, Energy Branch of the Department of Mines and Energy reported the following:

- The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador is trying to plan a strategy for developing a CZM plan.

- The Government has initiated the information sharing process amongst relevant departments and a discussion on a path forward.

Neil MacNaughton reported the following:

- Mike Warren has been appointed as the official representative of the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador on the ACZISC. Neil added that he would be willing to continue as Mike's alternate.
- There has been a recent push from the geomatics industry sector to develop an implementation plan for the provincial geomatics strategy which received approval in principle 2½ years ago. It is anticipated that the strategy would be implemented over a period of 5 years.
- It is expected that the Surveys and Mapping Division of Government Services and Lands will become a provincial geomatics centre.
- The need has been expressed for base mapping at a scale larger than the currently available 1:50 000.
- There is support in the Province for a data integration model. 17 government agencies in NF are producers and/or users of geospatial data.
- An example of data integration is a sustainable development project in Stephenville for which 44 layers of information were assembled. The information is available on a website; the individual layers can be turned on or off. At the end of the project, the information will reside on 3 servers. ESRI Map Objects is the software being used for data integration on the WWW.
- Metadata re Newfoundland and Labrador, originally a component of the ACZISC Database Directory, is available via the CEONet website (<http://cgdi.gc.ca/ceonet>) and the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador Surveys and Mapping Division website (<http://public.gov.nf.ca/smd/>).

NATURAL RESOURCES CANADA/GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF CANADA - ATLANTIC:

Andy Sherin reported the following:

- The GSC is adopting a competitive proposal process for allocating A-base funding that will be phased in over three years. The level of funding for the 2000-2001 budget year has not been decided but there is a possibility of reduced resources for coastal and marine research at the GSC next year.
- Agreements are in place for the habitat mapping of Georges Bank which will be done in a similar manner to that of Browns Bank. The partners are DFO, GSC and Clearwater.
- Archaeologists working on early human settlements on the Northern Peninsula of NF have been using GSC paleogeography information to plan their summer 2000 field work. Unlike most of the landmass of the Maritimes which is submerging, the Northern Peninsula of NF is emerging. A DEM constructed from Geomatics Canada 1:50 000 topographic data is "virtually" flooded to levels compatible with geological evidence to determine likely paleoshorelines, the most probable sites for early human settlement.
- The Climate Change Action Fund (CCAF) project in PEI is underway with new staff at the GSC Atlantic.
- The publication entitled *Sensitivity of coasts of Canada to sea-level rise* (Shaw, J., Taylor, R.B., Forbes, D.L., Solomon, S., and Ruz, M.-H. 1998) is now available as Geological Survey of Canada Bulletin 505 from the GSC Bookstore (http://www.nrcan.gc.ca/gsc/bookstore_e.html).
- The organizing committee for CoastGIS 2001 will meet at BIO on 2 February 2000 at 13:30 hrs. Anyone interested in helping to organize the Conference is welcome to attend the meeting.
- NRCAN has decided to integrate its public meetings on marine mining with the public consultation process planned by DFO for the Oceans Management Strategy.

- The book entitled *Marine and Coastal GIS* (eds. Dawn Wright and Darius Bartlett) is now available from the publisher Taylor and Francis.
- The GSC Atlantic has received funding from the GSC Resources program for a new website "CoastWeb" that will provide interactive mapping functions, research vignettes, and client-oriented pages for researchers, land use planners and coastal landowners.

PUBLIC WORKS AND GOVERNMENT SERVICES: Bill Blight reported the following:

- PWGSC is making an effort to be web-enabled by the year 2004. Issues to be addressed include data management and human resources (average age is currently 49), and change in growth in the Department over the next 5-10 years.
- PWGSC is making an effort to be more efficient in collecting inner harbour data.
- The Department has met with CHS re their future requirements. PW also would like to be a support service to the Provinces.
- Ken Paul provided a 1-day presentation on multibeam data applications at a training session last fall.
- Coastal mapping applications are also of interest to PWGSC.

FIRST NATIONS: Mike Butler reported the following on behalf of Ken Paul who could not attend the meeting:

- The Assembly of First Nations (AFN) and Atlantic Policy Congress of First Nations Chiefs (APC) are co-hosting a conference entitled *Looking Forward: Treaty Implications* in St. John's, NF on 1-3 February 2000. Those that are interested can obtain further information from the APC office in Amherst, NS at 902-667-4006.

SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY: Danika van Proosdij, Senior Lecturer in the Department of Geography, stated that it was very important to forge links between academia, the private sector and governments which could lead to providing students with practical experience. In addition feedback is being sought to identify research needs in the Geomatics sector.

7. **UPDATES**

COASTAL ECONOMIC STUDIES: Barry Jones reported that NB has initiated two coastal economic studies in collaboration with DFO: a provincial-wide study and a local study. A draft of the provincial study report has been produced and the final report will be available in late spring. The study will be used to support a Marine Conservation Code. The local study will deal with the socio-economic implications of implementing sustainable development in the Caraquet area. It is scheduled for completion by the end of the year 2000.

SOUTHERN GULF OF ST. LAWRENCE COALITION ON SUSTAINABILITY: Barry Jones reported that the Founding Meeting for the SGSLCS had taken place in Summerside, PEI on 19-20 November 1999. A Steering Committee has been elected and will be meeting in the near future to initiate Coalition activities.

Faith Scattolon added that the Steering Committee of the SGSLCS had its first meeting on 14-15 January in Amherst, NS. A Management Committee was elected and sub-committees were formed to address constitution/policy development, a communication strategy, working group development and finances, and oil and gas exploration.

GLOBAL PROGRAMME OF ACTION COALITION/COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL COOPERATION: Andy Cameron reported that participants in the GPAC Gulf of Maine project held meetings in Portland last December to discuss the future of the project. The \$30K funding provided by the CEC will allow the project to continue for another year. Another bilateral Canada/USA workshop may be held.

Faith Scattolon reported that the CEC would be meeting in March in Mexico.

GULF OF MAINE COUNCIL ON THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT: Andy Cameron reported the following:

- NS will present the GoM Visionary Awards on Friday, 28 January in Digby. The NS winners are Dr. John Percy (individual award) and the Salmon River Salmon Association (group award). The NB winners are Art MacKay and the NB Nature Trust.
- In December Governor Jean Shaheen of New Hampshire proclaimed, on behalf of the Premiers and Governors of the Provinces/States participating in the Gulf of Maine Council, the year 2000 to be the Year of the Gulf of Maine.
- GoM implementation grants were awarded to two Canadian groups: the Clean Annapolis River Project (CARP) for linkage of communities around the Gulf and Clean Nova Scotia for a Beach Sweep Handbook.

Barry Jones added that the Council and Working Group will be meeting in March in Moncton and the GoM will be holding Working Group meetings in conjunction with CZC 2000.

COASTAL ZONE CANADA ASSOCIATION AND CONFERENCES: Barry Jones reported the following:

- CZC 2000 is scheduled for 17-22 September 2000 in Saint John, NB.
- Julian Walker, a former NB deputy minister, has been identified as the professional fund raiser for the event. His primary focus will be to obtain funds in support of foreign participants needing assistance.
- The deadline is 31 January 2000 for submitting Case Studies and Workshops. 30 April is the deadline for submitting papers and posters.
- The CZC 2000 website is now online; the URL is <http://www.gov.nb.ca/dfa/czc-zcc2000.htm>
- Megan Trites-Tolson is the CZC 2000 Secretariat Office Coordinator. The Office email address is czczzc@gov.nb.ca

Larry Hildebrand reported the following:

- The Steering and Program Committees for CZC 2000 have agreed that the Conference should be based on an assessment of the existing 'state of the art' in the practice of ICM.
- Accordingly, the Steering Committee for CZC 2000 has decided to commission *Baseline 2000* to serve as the reference point for the Conference.
- Such an assessment would provide a cohesive framework to serve as a reference point for all Conference sessions and facilitate the preparation of specific recommendations, guidance and an agenda for action.
- Dr. Jens Sorensen, University of Massachusetts-Boston has been contracted to prepare the document.

BAY OF FUNDY ECOSYSTEM PARTNERSHIP: Barry Jones reported that the 4th Bay of Fundy Science Workshop will be held on 20-21 September in Saint John in conjunction with CZC 2000. The workshop theme is *Opportunities and Challenges for Protecting, Restoring and Enhancing Coastal Habitats in the Bay of Fundy*. The deadline for submitting papers is also 30 April. Information is available from <http://www.auracom.com/~bofef/>

MARINE GEOSPATIAL DATA INFRASTRUCTURE: Mike Butler reported that the Marine Geospatial Data Infrastructure (MGDI) was the proposed marine component of the Canadian Geospatial Data Infrastructure being implemented by the GeoConnections Secretariat. A Marine Advisory Committee has been set up to represent the various stakeholder groups in the development of the MGDI. He and Andy Sherin are members of this Committee and Randy Gillespie is a co-chair. The MGDI is directly related to the ACZISC goal for the

development and coordination of a regional coastal zone information infrastructure. Charlie O'Reilly enquired if the CHS was represented on the Marine Advisory Committee. Mike answered that Brian Wilson from CHS Pacific Region was a member.

Mike added that the CCMC had been funded by DFO Ottawa to organize a series of workshops across Canada on the MGD. Randy has asked the ACZISC to organize one or more of the workshops.

8. **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PUBLICATIONS**

Andy Sherin reported that Geomatics Atlantic is scheduled for 25-27 September 2000 at the World Trade and Convention Centre in Halifax. Dave Keefe, NS Housing and Municipal Affairs, is the Conference coordinator. Contact Andy for further information or to provide suggestions on conference themes, presentations, etc. (sherin@agc.bio.ns.ca).

9. **OTHER BUSINESS**

No new business was discussed.

10. **NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT**

ACZISC Meeting #30 is provisionally scheduled for Thursday, 11 May 2000 in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island.

ACZISC Meeting #29 adjourned at 16:00 hrs.